THE EXAMINER.

N0. 355. SUNDAY, OCT. 16, 1814.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. SWIFT.

No. 345.

OPENING OF THE CONGRESS.

VIENNA, after being, for years, like a village of which we have read in some horrific romance, divided between a fearful and listening kind of dullness at one time, and an uproarious incursion of midnight strangers at another, has suddenly shone forth in all the security of a gay capital, and taken the lead of Paris as the centre of imperial triumph. For some weeks past, Ministers, Ambassadors, and Agents of all sorts, have been pouring into it; Kings, Emperors, and Empresses followed; and the Congress, which was to open on the 1st, has most probably commenced operations by this time, or at least made a shew of so doing; for as many ceremonies and flourishes usually take place on these occasions as at a meeting of choice spirits in Pekin, and it being every one's business to take care of the interests and dignity of his cause, and not appear hurried or ungenteel, the reader may easily conceive what a world there ensues, among the graver sort, of stately visits, cool preparations, discussion of etiquettes, winking and contemplative eyes, corner-dropped mouths, lifted eye-brows, and satisfied snuff-takings,—and among the livelier, what smirkings and smiles, what eyeings and compliments, what ingenuous face-makings, what rustling of papers, toning of bems, and pigeoning up of frills! Lucky is he among them, who has least of all this about him. He shall take in at least nine out of ten, by being at no trouble to do so.

Indeed none of the parties at this Congress need be at any great pains, if the leaders are as disposed, as they profess, to do justice to Europe. The latter have a power in their hands, which there is at present no possibility of disputing, and which nobody will be grieved to see exercised to its full extent, if the object be clear and just. There is not even the obstacle in their way, which the most powerful and best intentioned Sovereigns can scarcely ever avoid,—we mean, the passions and prejudices of their own subjects; for as it is but due to authorities in general to acknowledge, that the people who complain of them are sometimes the cause of their adhering to some gross piece of error or injustice, arising from the national self-love, so in the present instance, the parties who are in a condition to dictate, have all atchieved so much victory, and for the most part obtained so much clear gain for their respective nations, that they can well afford to make concessions for the general good; and the nation that would venture to make any unjust protest or pretension in it's own favour, should be regarded as nothing but a faction in the eyes of the greater people of Europe and of the world.

We shall conclude our first article on this important subject with a brief sketch of what, in our opinion, ought to be the concessions of which we speak, and without some of which at least, the respective Sovereigns, however safe they may consider themselves at present, will only leave such a disgust of themselves and their authority in the minds of Europe, as will before long perhaps throw the world into confusion again, and not finish till it has read them a much more conclusive lesson than ever BONAPARTE did.

In the first place, Russia, Austria, and Prussia, must give up their claims upon Poland, and thus do away the first immediate cause of what the independence of thrones and nations has suffered for the last twenty years. The general feeling of Europe is loud and unequivocal on this point; and there is no doubt that a disappointment on it would be taken at once as an insulting proof, that the Allied Sovereigns did not feel an atom of all which they had professed, and were prepared to set the whole civilized community at defiance.

Secondly, As much amends as possible should be made for that outrage on Norway, which has formed such a strange and impolitic contradiction to the spirit of late events, and to which the world are willing to believe that the Allied Sovereigns consented, before they had had their final conviction of the beauty and wisdom of a noble policy. It is true, what are called the interests of their Ally the CROWN PRINCE of SWEDEN may be affected on this occasion; but it should be recollected, that the treaty with him certainly did not anticipate such a resistance as has taken place on the part of the *Norwegians*, or stipulate for the reduction of that gallant people by force. They might well tell him, therefore, that the Norwegians should be left to themselves; and as to himself, we are not at all sure that by his conscriptions and his other imitations of BONAPARTE he has not already so far disgusted the Swedes as well as other nations, as to render the continuance of his royalty very doubtful; so that the Allies may be relieved perhaps in another manner of the trouble of looking after him,—a consummation, by the way, which we should be very happy to see,—not because we are at all inclined to respect certain lofty and exclusive feelings which may have given rise to the cold reception he is said to have experienced at Paris from the Austrian Emperor, but because he has belied the merits which may have originally raised him to importance, and proved himself by his worthlessness as fit to be set aside as some legitimate Sovereigns.

Thirdly, The Slave Trade should be immediately and wholly abolished. This is a concession, if it is to be so

called, which France must make; for the other powers, by all account, are heartily disposed to put an end to this most inhuman of tyrannies, and it was nothing (we blush to say it) but the criminal easiness of an English Minister which allowed it to go on for five years longer. France can have no face for claiming an exception in this respect; for whether we consider her republican or her monarchical feelings, her continuance of the traffic must be alike absurd and barbarous. If the love of independence is her predominant feeling, then she cannot pretend to the permission of reducing others to the most horrible slavery;—if pity for the fate of her lately exiled Princes, and a wish to shew herself once more the polite and the christian-like, common consistency will be equally at a loss to warrant her; and in any case, the pretensions of a set of French merchants in opposition to the feelings of so many princes and nations, and the happiness of millions of their fellow-creatures, ought to be puffed away with one breath of contempt.

Fourthly, The Allied Powers must not be guilty of a gross piece of injustice in the face of all that they have been lately doing, and play the same game with *Saxony* as some of their predecessors did with *Poland*;—they must not be so absurd, (even to say no more of it) as to put down with one hand an example that has scourged them, and raise up with the other a second to do likewise. The King of Prussia's conduct, of all others, will be looked upon as most gross and callous, if he thinks to profit by such iniquity; for he, of all others, has most complained, and with justice, of the unsparing tyranny of Bonaparte; and if he proceeds to do like his oppressor, the world will say, that he who can so forget all his former lessons now that he is in prosperity, could have been nothing but a cheat and a groaning coward in adversity.

Fifthly, The Emperor of Austria must shew a reasonable disposition towards the independence of Italy. Something, it is true, should be allowed to the prejudices of a Court, which like most other Courts is accustomed to consider all old possessions as proper ones; but then Italian independence is a still older possession; and the Allied Sovereigns have felt and confessed, that wars and victories have lately been brought about, not because possession or precedent was so much the matter in dispute, as because the feelings of nations were outraged, and could no longer submit to the domination of strangers.

These are the chief requisites that strike us as being necessary to the proper spirit of the Congress, and to the feelings with which the world are henceforward to regard it's directors. There are concessions for all the chief Continental Powers to make,—for France, Austria, Russia, and Prussia. Is the greatest and most enlightened Power then of all, it may be asked, to make no concession? Yes, certainly, if any concession be necessary,—the very first to make it. What then is it to be? This is a question we are not exactly prepared to answer. England may say that she has done a great deal for every body, and that she has no encroaching offences,—no unneighbourly graspings to answer for. She may also say, and with great truth, that she has set the best example to Europe both of foreign and domestic conduct,—that she has been the first to abolish the Slave Trade, and has helped the dispossessed to their thrones, and the invaded to their freedom. She has so; and every Englishman will repeat it with pride;—but it does not follow from this, that if there is any thing about her conduct, or the tone of it, which ought in reason to be given up, she should refuse to make the concession; the very contrary follows; for what is the soundness of her conduct and the glory of her character, if they cannot best afford, because they *are* sound and *are* glorious, to acknowledge an error that may have crept into them? We know not indeed that any concession will be demanded; but there is perhaps one point on which it may,—it is a point, too, on which we have to make amends for something which we formerly said upon it in the pride of our youth and our English feelings; and we here give notice, that if any thing be requested of England that may tend to put that liberty of the seas, which Napoleon pretended to have so much at heart, upon a footing more agreeable to the rest of the world, and not in any real or truly glorious point injurious to ourselves, we shall defend the Minister, who concedes it, with as much zeal and as much consciousness of taking the best and most honourable part for our country, as we drew off from and renounced him, when he bowed away five years of the Slave-Trade Abolition out of the excess of his complaisance to the Prince of Benevento.

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WAR WITH AMERICA.

October 11, 1814.

Mr. Examiner,—Having addressed to you a letter signed *An Englishman*, and published in your last, adverting to your remarks upon the military transactions in America, it is now impossible for me not to trouble you with a few words, in reference to the letter which also appeared in your paper of Sunday last, signed *A Calm Observer*. The Writer's arguments amount to this; that "we ought to patch up an immediate peace with the United States, because, though we were certain of success sufficient to enforce a compliance with our demands, it would be impolitic to continue the war, inasmuch (forsooth) as the Americans would be thereby *impoverished*, and therefore rendered less *valuable* as friends, and *more* inveterate as enemies. The common-place respecting the calamities of war is then brought forward; the injurious expence to this country is magnified; the impossibility of vanquishing the Americans, and the probability of future failure on our side, and of victory on theirs, is largely argued; finally, it is assumed, that we are at war for a part of the American territory, which, if ceded, would not afford the security sought for.

Supposing the *Calm Observer's* assumption to be correct, that the United States' Government would give up all its professed points of war, making a stand only against the cessions required upon the Lakes, to what is their concession to that extent to be ascribed? To their fears and their

necessity? or to their moderation? They attacked us with a hope of dismembering valuable provinces, at a moment when, from the state of the war in Europe, they conceived success certain; by the extraordinary change of affairs, the Americans from assailants became the assailed, and the war having been undertaken by their Administration, in direct opposition to the sentiments of a large (and the best) portion of the States, and its real and professed objects being equally unattainable, a resistance to the demand of a cession of the borders of the Lakes could *alone* afford a ground for Mr. Madison to expect *any* support from his countrymen.

On our side the proposition is simple. After experiencing a treacherous attack, we seek to provide for the security of our provinces, in any treaty of peace. How is that security to be attained? Are these provinces of sufficient value and importance to warrant any, and what, sacrifices in procuring it? And (their degree of importance being settled) is it not more politic and prudent to insist upon the terms required for this purpose *now*, when our attitude *authorizes* and *may reconcile* the demand; when the conduct and views of the Madisonian Government are appreciated by their countrymen, and even in France; than to risk another war upon the same ground?

Those who have to decide these questions, are also to judge, whether, as the *Calm Observer*" *thinks*, the war, if not now concluded upon the enemy's terms, must last some years? Unquestionably, a demand to cede territory, however trifling, or on whatever pretence, must be repugnant to national feeling; but is there not reason to doubt, whether the people of America, looking to the conduct of their Government in attacking the Canadas, and acknowledging the apprehensions we are authorized to entertain of a renewal of that measure, should a favourable occasion offer, and the right we thence derive, when our situation enables us to demand it, to insist upon adequate security against such an attempt;—upon these considerations, and with the conviction that our demands are limited to what that security suggests, unmixed with views of aggrandisement, is there not reason to doubt whether a majority of the States would support their Government in rejecting the proposals now believed to be before them?

In regard to the expence which a prolongation of the war would occasion to this country, it would certainly be a subject of regret, but the *Calm Observer* is a little too potent in arraying the whole phalanx of Loans, Income-tax, &c. as appending to a contest with the United States, maintained *after* the settlement of Europe. At present, the effects of the late war are in full force, and considering the state of affairs must remain so, more or less, for some time; the degree in which we should be affected by a continuance of war with America, *after* Europe should be disarmed, cannot therefore certainly be admitted as a ground for relinquishing demands *otherwise justified* by the relative situation of the two countries.—Upon every principle of œconomy, as well as of honour, a safe, satisfactory, and final adjustment of all points in dispute with America should now take place.

Coming now to the *Calm Observer*'s military disquisition, it is to be observed, that if by vanquishing be means subjugating or establishing dominion over the United States, such an idea is unworthy of refutation. Our object is, in the French phrase, to "conquer peace," for which I conceive the means amply in our power. Under the reflections excited by the proceedings of their Government, and the inflictions which the war may and does occasion to the Americans, (already a source of dissention, and almost of dismion, amongst them), Mr. Madison can look for little support, and it would not be doing justice to his selfishness to suppose, that he would farther hazard his own downfall, even to maintain the unchangeable opinions and projects or in furthering the inveterate animosities of his party.

From the apprehensions entertained by the *Calm Observer*, (which are in unison with the remarks in your Paper of the 3d) that the American army will speedily acquire those military qualities in which they are now so totally deficient, and will thereby be enabled to defeat their present conquerors, I confess myself entirely free; nor does the parallel adduced, of the revolutionary war, give weight, in my mind, to this opinion. It has never been doubted, that had Sir W. Howe made the use, which in the present times would be made, of the decisive success that attended him in the field, the war might have been brought to a different issue; but Sir W. Howe, though allowed to have been able in the hour of action, did not *prosecute* the war entrusted to his conduct in the way best calculated to insure its speedy and successful termination. The duration of that contest necessarily impaired the means and weakened the efforts of England, while it augmented the hopes and encouraged the exertions of her adversary; years of war also undoubtedly served to give consistence, confidence, and experience to her army; but at the same time, America had some advantages, now wanting to her, or thrown into the opposite scale.—*That* war was highly unpopular in England, and eminently popular throughout the States;—America set out with a large body of native officers (General Washington for one) who had served against France in the war concluded in 1763, and officers from various European nations also entered her service;—*now*, near thirty years of peace have left hardly a vestige of military comprehension or feeling in the country, and several years of war would be necessary for these to be incipiently renewed, unless some great character, very unlike any of their present leaders, should rise up amongst them.

Your Correspondent at length arrives at his position, that "we are at war for a portion of the American territory, which, if ceded, would afford no security to our provinces." The first part of this proposition is entirely deceptive. *As territory*, we neither want or demand, the borders of the Lakes; but satisfied of the policy and necessity of preventing the Americans from establishing a navy on those waters, we demand their exclusion from the ports thereon; and the new frontier proposed on our side is regulated by that object. As to the absurd stuff which follows, it amounts to this, "a frontier is a frontier, and all frontiers are alike, and equally liable to attack." This need not be noticed.

It is an old and favourite argument with the advocates for peace with America, (and now adopted by the *Calm Observer*,) when they have deprecated our shewing resentment at any provocation, or repelling any injury,—that it could never be dishonourable to this great country to shew forbearance, and even to make concessions to America; that our taking that course would be attributed to magnanimity, *not to weakness*; and these counsellors generally conclude with the common-place cant, about "kinsmen," "community of origin, and of language."

If a judgment were to be formed, from the conduct

pursued by England towards the United States for years, this advice has certainly been attended to, for more patience under aggression, more studied disavowal of any intention to *offend* or *defend*, could hardly be exhibited than on the part of England, in the frequent disputes which the unjust and hostile conduct of the American Government has engendered during our contest with France. That Government at last relieved their clamourous friend-*here* of their trouble, by commencing war; in which it may be hoped they will be taught, that whatever might have been the feelings, or rather *failing* of England towards America, a reference to the original connection, instead of forming, at present, a bond of kindness, is in fact only felt as an aggravation of the treachery and inveterate hostility, evinced by the leading party of that nation, which finally embroiled the reluctant people in a war, occasioning the ruin of their commerce, the desolation of their country, and the oppression of themselves.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

AN ENGLISHMAN.

P. S. While writing and closing this paper, intelligence accumulates of the progress of our arms, at different points, in America. Little doubt can be felt that Sir G. Prevost has obtained decisive success on the frontier of Lower Canada, and the naval arrangements calculated to give us a commanding superiority on the Upper Lakes, appear to be near completion. It would indeed be impossible to doubt the effect of the great exertions lately directed to that quarter; and to allow these great efforts, naval and military, to end merely in demonstration; not to employ them effectually, to enforce all demands connected with national honour and security, would render the having made these efforts, a crime.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, OCT. 6.—The *Journal de Paris* contains the following remarks upon the conduct of the English in America;—

"We daily receive new details as to the horrible catastrophe which has annihilated one of the finest cities in the world. People ask, how a nation eminently civilised has conducted itself at Washington with a barbarity equal to that of the hands of Attila and Genseric. They ask whether this act of atrocious vengeance be not a crime against the whole human race. Robespierre, indeed, seconded by his execrable accomplices, caused the towns of La Vendee to be burned,—ordered the massacres of Toulon and Bedoin,—demolished the city of Lyons,—but still it was Robespierre, and his name is devoted to external execration. The revolutionary vandals who devastated France in 1793 took a ferocious pleasure in destroying or mutilating the monuments of the arts, but they were men sprung from the dregs of society, miserable *sans-culottes* agitated by all the furies of the Revolution.—But when from the midst of one of the most enlightened nations a Chief has issued, who, without fanaticism, without any extraordinary motives for vengeance, without any of those violent passions which disturb the understanding, has imitated the fury of the most savage hordes; has carried fire and flame into the heart of a city whose wealth and beauty were one of the most valuable monuments of the progress of the arts, and of human industry; has made war, not upon his enemies, but on the columns of temples, of public [illegible] palaces; has laid waste for the mere pleas[illegible] we behold in this a proceeding which [illegible] of grief and indignation.—For twenty [illegible] the horrors engendered by the frightful genius of revolutions. England justly thundered against these excesses; and now when sentiments of humanity spring up again in all hearts, she renews in America these scenes of carnage and desolation!—However, if she thought by such sanguinary execution to strike terror into the heart of her enemies, she is deceived in her cruel calculations. Injustice and barbarity revolt still more than they frighten. They communicate an unknown energy to the soul; they rouse even the most pacific, and produce those bold and desperate resolves which secure the safety and independence of nations."

The intelligence which we receive from Madrid informs us that the arrests continue, and that in the night between the 16th and 17th of September ninety persons were thrown into the various prisons. The prisons, in short, are not large enough to contain them, and the Convent of St. Francis has therefore been converted into a state prison. The terror which this state of things has occasioned at Madrid, and even throughout Spain, has caused the departure of many persons, who pour into France by the way of Burgos.

A Swiss officer who has returned from Spain gives the following details with regard to that country:—

"There reigns every where a great diversity of opinion, and an alarming fermentation. The sound part of the nation observe with pain that Father Castro, of the order of St. Jerome, enjoys the confidence of the King: it is he who edits the Journal called *Atalaya*. There is only this difference between him and Marat—that Castro consigns intelligent men (*los liberales*) to the stake, while Marat sent them to the guillotine. Another fanatical monk, named Ostolaza, has been appointed a bishop by the King.—Shouts are often heard in Catalonia, of *Long live Charles IV., down with Ferdinand!* Many Guerilla Chiefs act like independent Princes. The troops which Ferdinand wished to send to America have refused to embark, and the Government has been obliged to give way. This Swiss has seen at Valentia some monks riding upon mules, with a cross in their left hand, and a sabre in their right, crying—*Blessed* be the Lord! Down with the *liberals!*"

PARIS, OCT. 8.—We have just received accounts from Bayonne of a very interesting character. The enterprizing General Mina, who has so eminently distinguished himself during the late war, has collected his troops in the neighbourhood of St. Sebastian; and on the 25th of September a detachment from his forces made an assault upon the citadel. It was not successful, and one of the regiments employed would not obey; but the whole fell back in good order on the main body, which consists of 18,000 men. This experiment in itself is not considered of importance, but in its connection in a great scheme of enterprize and co-operation it is held to be of the greatest consequence to Spain.

GERMANY.

VIENNA, SEPT. 26.—The Emperor of Russia made the journey from Petersburgh to Vienna with incredible rapidity. The artillery placed on the road from Brunn to Vienna gave the signal of the arrival of his Majesty in the morning of yesterday. At eleven he was announced at Wolkersdorff. The Emperor Alexander found there the King of Prussia, who awaited him, and the two Monarchs continued their journey together. As soon as the Emperor of Austria was informed of the approach of these illustrious guests, he departed from his palace, mounted on his horse, accompanied by all the Princes, Archdukes, and General Officers, to meet the Illustrious Foreigners. In the mean time all the troops of the garrison, the arquebusiers, and the noble Hungarian guard, were in parade at the entrance

of the Prater, and shortly after the city guards joined these corps. The three Monarchs met on the left bank of the Danube, at the end of the Tabor bridge, and after the most affectionate compliments, the Emperor of Russia and the King of Prussia mounted the state horses brought for their conveyance. The entire cavalcade crossed the bridge. The Monarchs made a short review of the troops which were on parade, and at twelve the procession commenced its solemn entrance into the capital of Austria. The regiment of Hulans of Prince Schwartzenberg opened the march; the cuirassiers of Albert followed, commanded by Prince Albert of Saxe Teschin, in person. Then came the Emperor and King, having on his left the Emperor of Russia, and on his right the King of Prussia: a numerous and brilliant Staff followed; the noble guards and other military bodies closed the march. The procession lasted an hour, and in this period a thousand cannon were discharged from the ramparts. As the weather was fine, and it was Sunday, it may be said that the whole population of Vienna, and of the neighbourhood, had collected to witness a spectacle never before seen—three powerful Monarchs of Europe sincerely and intimately united for the repose of the world. The air echoed with the acclamations and cries of joy that accompanied their Majesties to the Imperial Palace, where the guards were paraded.—The Duchess of Oldenburgh is lodged in the Imperial Palace. The King of Denmark returned yesterday the visits that he had received from the Archdukes.

PRUSSIA.

Berlin, Sept. 30.—It seems certain at present that the Prince Royal of Sweden will not assist at the Congress of Vienna. He has not received the letter of invitation on the part of the Emperor of Austria, who has addressed one to all Sovereigns and Princes, and particularly to the King of Denmark. This circumstance, it is said, gives much uneasiness to the Prince Royal. It is remembered that he was very coolly received by the Emperor of Austria at Paris; and it is known besides, that many powers of Europe take a particular interest in the son of Gustavus their relation, a young Prince who possesses the most happy assemblage of brilliant and royal endowments. It is remarked that the King of Denmark has been very well treated by the Allied Sovereigns. The Prince Royal of Sweden having demanded in the month of July last the sanction of England to get possession of Copenhagen and Zealand, under the pretext of punishing the King of Denmark for his equivocal conduct since the last peace. The Court of London formally rejected this proposition, and declared that it would protect Denmark in its present possessions. The Court of Prussia and that of Russia also manifest at this moment great friendship towards the King of Denmark.

AMERICA.

GENERAL WINDER'S OFFICIAL LETTER.

COPY OF A LETTER FROM BRIGADIER-GENERAL WINDER TO THE SECRETARY AT WAR, DATED

"*Baltimore, Aug.* 27, 1814.

"Sir,—When the enemy arrived at the mouth of the Potomac, of all the militia which I had been authorized to assemble, there were about 1700 in the field—from thirteen to fourteen hundred, under Gen. Stansbury, near this place, and about two hundred and fifty at Bladensburg, under Lieut.-Colonel Kramer. The slow progress of draft, and the imperfect organization, with the ineffectiveness of the laws to compel them to turn out, rendered it impossible to have procured more. The militia of this State, and of the contiguous parts of Virginia and Pennsylvania, were called on *en masse*: but the former militia law of Pennsylvania had expired the first of June or July, and the one adopted in its place is not to take effect in organizing the militia before Oct. No aid, therefore, has been received from that State. After all the force that could be put at my disposal in that short time, and making such dispositions as I deemed best calculated to present the most respectable force at whatever point the enemy might strike, I was enabled, by the most active and harassing movement of the troops, to interpose before the enemy at Bladensburg, about 5000 men, including 350 regulars, and Commodore Barney's command. Much the largest portion of this force arrived on the ground when the enemy were in sight, and were disposed of to support, in the best manner, the position which General Stansbury had taken. They had barely reached the ground before the action commenced, which was about one o'clock, P.M. of the 24th instant, and continued about an hour. The contest was not as obstinately maintained as could have been desired, but was, by parts of the troops, sustained with great spirit and prodigious effect; and had the whole of our force been equally firm, I am induced to believe the enemy would have been repulsed, notwithstanding all the disadvantages under which we fought. The artillery from Baltimore, supported by Major Pinkney's rifle battalion; and a part of Captain Doughty's from the Navy-yard; were in advance to command the pass of the bridge at Bladensburg, and played upon the enemy, as I have since learned, with very destructive effect. But the rifle troops were obliged after some time to retire, and of course the artillery. Superior numbers, however, rushed upon them, and made their retreat necessary: not however, without great loss on the part of the enemy. Major Pinkney received a severe wound in his right arm after he had retired to the left flank of Stansbury's brigade. The right and centre of Stansbury's brigade, consisting of Lieut.-Colonels Ragan and Shuter's regiments, generally gave way very soon afterwards, with the exception of about forty, rallied by Colonel Ragan, after having lost his horse, and the whole or a part of Captain Shower's company, both of whom General Stansbury represents to have made, even thus deserted, a gallant stand. The fall which Lieut.-Colonel Ragan received from his horse, together with his great efforts to sustain his position, rendered him unable to follow the retreat; we have therefore to lament that this gallant and excellent officer has been taken prisoner; he has, however, been paroled, and I met him here recovering from the bruises occasioned by his fall. The loss of his services at this moment is serious. The 5th Baltimore regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Sterrett, being the left of Brigadier General Stansbury's brigade, still however stood their ground, and except for a moment, when part of them recoiled a few steps, remained firm, and stood until ordered to retreat, with a view to prevent them from being outflanked. The reserve, under Brigadier-General Smith, of the district of Columbia, with the militia of the city and Georgetown, with the regulars and some detachments of Maryland militia, flanked on the right by Commodore Barney and his brave fellows, and Lieutenant-Colonel Beal, still were to the right on the hill, and maintained the contest for some time with great effect. It is not with me to report the conduct of Commodore Barney and his command, nor can I speak from observation, being too remote; but the concurrent testimony of all that did observe them, the highest justice for their brave resistance and the destructive effect they produced on the enemy. Commodore Barney, after having lost his horse, took post near one of his guns, and there unfortunately received a severe wound in the thigh, and he also fell into the hands of the enemy. Captain Miller, of the marines, was wounded in the arm, fighting bravely. From the best intelligence, there remains but little doubt that the enemy lost at least 400 killed and wounded, and of these a very unusual portion killed. Our loss cannot, I think, be estimated at more than from 30 to 40 killed, and 50 or 60 wounded. They took altogether about 120 prisoners. You will readily understand that it is impossible for me to speak minutely of

the merit or demerit of particular troops, so little known to me from their recent and hasty assemblage. My subsequent movements for the purpose of preserving as much of my force as possible, gaining reinforcements, and protecting this place, you already know.—I am, with great respect, Sir, your obedient servant, "W. H. WINDER, Brig.-Gen. 10th Mil. D.

"*Hon. John Armstrong, Secretary at War.*"

FROM THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER, AUG 31.

Mr. Secretary Monroe has, in pursuance of the united requests of the commanders of the various description of troops assembled in this district, accepted the command of the military force now in the vicinity. Gen. Armstrong having, yesterday, retired from the execution of the duties of Secretary of War in this district, in consequence, probably, of the prejudice which has been excited against him among the troops, the duties of his office also have been temporarily consigned to the Secretary of State, who immediately entered on the discharge of them. Many measures will, forthwith, be put in a train of execution which it may not now be proper to announce, and the effect of which will be seen in due time. The enemy continued last night still at Alexandria, emptying the warehouses, as agreed on in the Capitulation, which will be found in our columns; a capitulation of such a nature as the citizens of Georgetown indignantly repelled an invitation to enter into. Troops are every hour arriving in the city, (Washington) in larger or smaller corps, which it would be difficult, if we wished, to enumerate. Among those arrived or expected, are a number of seamen, under their gallant Commanders. When we remarked, in our paper of yesterday, that private property had in general been scrupulously respected by the enemy during his late incursion, we spoke what we believed, from a hasty survey, and perhaps without sufficient inquiry. Greater respect was certainly paid to private property than has usually been exhibited by the enemy in his marauding parties. No houses were half as much plundered by the enemy as by the knavish wretches about the town, who profited of the general distress. There were, however, several private buildings wantonly destroyed, and some of those persons who remained in the city were scandalously maltreated. Among the private buildings destroyed was the dwelling-house occupied by Mr Robert Sewall (formerly rented by M. Gallatin), from behind which a gun was fired at General Ross, which killed the horse he rode; the houses built for General Washington on the brow of Capitol-hill, the large hotel belonging to Daniel Carrol of Dudn. and others, and recently occupied by Mr. Tomlinson; the rope-walks of Tench, Ringold, Heath, and Co. and John Chalmers, were destroyed by fire, without any pretence being assigned therefore that we know of. The enemy was conducted through the city by a former resident, who, with other detached traitors, is now in confinement.—Cockburn was quite a mountebank in the city, exhibiting in the streets a gross levity of manner, displaying sundry articles of trifling value of which he had robbed the President's house, and repeating many of the coarse jests and vulgar slang of the *Federal Republican* respecting the Chief Magistrate and others, in a strain of eloquence which could only have been acquired by a constant perusal of that disgrace to the country.—The enemy retreated from the city with so great precipitation as to leave half his wounded behind him, amounting to more than a hundred, among whom are a Colonel and a Major. The force of the enemy is differently represented by deserters and prisoners; but the best informed make the force destined for the city to have been from four to five thousand well appointed and active men, infantry, artillery, rocketeers, &c. The enemy did not bury their dead, except those in the vicinity of their camp. The rest, in number nearly 200, were buried by a Committee of our own citizens. We again caution our readers against too much credit to all the rumours which are widely and industriously circulated, generally from erroneous information, but sometimes we are convinced from less pardonable causes, in relation to the battle at Bladensburg. Justice, however, requires us to say, that much dissatisfaction prevailed among the troops who were engaged, at having been led so soon and so far from the field of action. It is a general opinion among them, how just we say not, that the enemy might have been successfully resisted to the end by the force we had in the field. This is a question, the solution of which materially depends on the number of troops the enemy brought into the field, as to which, as we before observed, we are not accurately informed, and much difference of opinion prevails.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

Last week, as Dr. Saunders, in company with his wife's brother, Sir Charles Flint and Mr. Fowler, jun. were on a shooting excursion, near Brundestone, Suffolk, the former carrying a double-barrel gun, had discharged one of them and shot his bird; being much pleased with the conduct of a favourite dog, he placed his gun upon the ground, resting it against his left arm, in order to caress him, when, dreadful to relate, the dog fondly jumping to receive his attention, touched the trigger, when the whole of the remaining charge entered his arm about two inches below the head of the humerus; and from the resistance of the bone and socket, the expansive force of the shot lacerated all the neighbouring parts, particularly the axillery artery, so as not to be effectually secured; the effusion of blood which followed the accident was immense, and precluded every prospect of saving his life. Sir Charles's servant was the only person near him; he ran immediately to his assistance, when he exclaimed, "Ferrol, I am a dead man, send for Mr. Borrett, of Yarmouth, immediately; tell Sir Charles to accept a poor remembrance of me—that dog" (pointing to the dog who played so principal a part in the tragedy), "and let me be buried in a decent way at Blundestone." Shortly after he fainted from loss of blood, and was conveyed to his residence a mile distant. When Mr. Borrett arrived, he said to him, "you can be of no use to me." Dr. Gerdlestone, Mr. B. and five other professional gentlemen, advised the amputation of the arm at the socket joint, to which Dr. S. submitted. He died in the evening.

On the evening of the 24th ult. a violent thunder storm passed over the town of Glastonbury. During the storm, a Mr. Down was on his return home from his father's house, guarding himself by an umbrella from the violence of the rain, which was pouring in torrents, when the electric fluid struck the top of the umbrella, and passed down the stick, which it shivered to pieces, together with the wires connected therewith. The slide that comes down the stick was thrown to the distance of several yards, and the wire that fastened it to the branches of the umbrella was entirely consumed. Mr. Down was struck down with such violence, that he was taken home, and remained in a kind of stupor for several hours, before he recovered.

SUPPLEMENTARY GAZETTE.

SUNDAY, OCT. 9.

This Gazette contains dispatches from Rear Admiral Griffith, giving an account of his operations on the Penobscot river, and of those of a military force under Sir John Sherbrooke, in the adjacent country. The town and fort of Castine (at the entrance of the river) was abandoned by the enemy after a slight resistance, on the appearance of his Majesty's forces, on the 1st of Sept. and the fort blown up.—Arrangements having been made for attacking the Adams frigate of 26 guns, lying at Hamden, about 27 miles up the Penobscot, with a force under Captain Barrie, of the Dragon, and Lieut.-Colonel John, of the 60th regiment, the troops destined for this service were disembarked on the 3d of Sept. and supported on their advance by the boats of the squadron. The enemy was strongly posted upon a high hill near the frigate, and supported by two batteries, one of eight the other of fifteen 18-pounders with a force of 1400 men; but the discharge of some rockets from a boat having thrown his men into confusion, the British troops immediately stormed and carried the hill, and the enemy, driven from his position, escaped into the woods.—On approaching Bangor, the insa-

bitants made an unconditional surrender of the town, and Brigadier-General Blake, with 191 prisoners, were admitted to parole.—Twelve vessels were captured and brought away; nine destroyed.—The British loss consists of one seaman killed and Capt. Gell, of the 29th regiment, with seven privates, wounded. The enemy's loss is not ascertained; but more than thirty wounded were found in the woods. Seventeen guns were brought away, with a proportionate quantity of ammunition.—Rear Admiral Griffith also sends an account of the surrender of the fort of Machias and a neighbouring county to a force under Captain Parker, of the Tenedos, and Lieut.-Colonel Pilkington, the inhabitants offering to refrain from hostilities, and to place themselves under British protection.

List of Vessels captured and destroyed in the Penobscot, and of those left on the Stocks.

Captured and brought away—2 ships, 1 brig, 6 schooners, 3 sloops.

Destroyed at Hamden—The Adams frigate, of 26 guns, eighteen-pounders, and two ships, one of them armed; burnt by the enemy.

At Bangor—1 ship, 1 brig, 3 schooners, and 1 sloop; burnt by us.

Lost since our possession—A copper bottomed brig, pierced for 18 guns, and the Decator privateer, pierced for 16 guns.—Note—The powder and wine captured at Hamden were put on board those vessels.

Left on the Stocks at Bangor—2 ships, 2 brigs, and 2 schooners.

At Brewer—1 ship, 1 brig, and 1 schooner.

At Arrington—1 ship, 1 schooner, on the stocks.

Left at Hamden—1 ship, 1 hermaphrodite brig, and 2 schooners; also 1 brig and 1 schooner on the stocks.

Left at Fremford on the stocks—1 schooner and some small craft.

Return of Ordnance taken.

Taken at Hamden—23 iron eighteen-pounders, two iron twelve-pounders: 41 eighteen-pounders destroyed, 14 brought away.

Taken at Bangor and brought away—2 three-pounder brass guns, 1 iron three-pounder.

Total brought away—17

Embarked—1 ammunition cart, 500 eighteen-pound shot, about 40 barrels of powder, and a quantity of wads, &c. &c.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains the details of the failure of the late attack on Fort Erie, which we have already given from those published officially in Canada.—Lieut.-General Drummond says, "The attack on the fort and entrenchments leading from it to the Lake was made at the same moment by two columns; one under Lieut.-Colonel Drummond, 104th regiment, consisting of the flank companies 41st and 104th regiments, and a body of seamen and marines under Captain Dobbs, of the royal navy, on the fort; the other, under Colonel Scott, 103d, consisting of the 103d regiment, supported by two companies of the royals, was destined to attack the entrenchments. These columns advanced to the attack, as soon as the firing upon Col. Fischer's column was heard, and succeeded, after a desperate resistance, in making a lodgment in the fort through the embrazures of the demi-bastion, the guns of which they had actually turned against the enemy, who still maintained the stone building, when most unfortunately some ammunition, which had been placed under the platform, caught fire from the firing of the guns to the rear, and a most tremendous explosion followed, by which almost all the troops which had entered the place were dreadfully mangled. Panic was instantly communicated to the troops (who could not be persuaded that the explosion was accidental), and the enemy, at the same time pressing forward, and commencing a heavy fire of musketry, the fort was abandoned, and our troops retreated towards the battery. I immediately pushed out the 1st Battalion Royals, to support and cover the retreat, a service which that valuable corps executed with great steadiness.—Our loss has been very severe in killed and wounded: and I am sorry to add that almost all those returned "missing," may be considered as wounded or killed by the explosion, and left in the hands of the enemy. The failure of these most important attacks has been occasioned by circumstances which may be considered as almost justifying the momentary panic which they produced, and which introduced a degree of confusion into the columns, which, in the darkness of the night, the utmost exertions of the officers were ineffectual in removing."

The killed, wounded, and missing, as before mentioned, amount to 964.

BANKRUPTS.

W. Millett, jun. Bilsam, Glocestershire, dealer. Attornies, Messrs. Whitcombe and King, Serjeant's-inn, Fleet-street.

G. Adam, St. John-square, Clerkenwell, jeweller. Attornies, Messrs. R. and R. S. Fisher, Bell-square, Foster-lane.

J. Pritchard, Bath, tobacconist. Attorney, Mr. Huxley, Temple.

S. Chandley, Etchells, Cheshire, cotton-manufacturer. Attornies, Messrs. Milne and Parry, Temple.

R. Jones, Newport, Monmouthshire, merchant. Attornies, Messrs. Sweet and Stokes, Basinghall street.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTS.

W. Roebuck, Huddersfield, York, cloth-dresser. Attorney, Mr. Greenwood, Huddersfield.

T. Hughes, Sheerness, tailor. Attorney, Mr. Davies, Lothbury.

C. C. Robinson, Huddersfield, York, butcher. Attornies, Messrs. Willis, Fairthorne, and Clarke, Warnford-court, Throgmorton-street.

R. Andrews, Campden, Gloucester, horse-dealer. Attorney, Mr. Green, Campden.

S. Adams, Walsall, Stafford, merchant. Attorney, Mr. Simcox, Birmingham.

R. Crocker, Kentish Town, victualler. Attorney, Mr. Martindale, Gray's-inn-square.

R. Smith, Sedgley, Stafford, maltster. Attorney, Mr. Homer, Sedgley.

Lord HOLLAND will be the next PARLIAMENTARY PORTRAIT.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

3 per Cent. Cons. ..... 65⅝¾ | Omnium..... 2¼ dis.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, OCTOBER 16.

We have noticed in our first article the opening of the Congress at Vienna. It is understood to have taken place on the 1st. On the 9th of the month also it was supposed the Diet of Norway would meet; and we should be glad that it did so, if the result, as we still do not despair, were to decide against the insolent claims of BERNADOTTE. But perhaps if it wait a little longer, the Congress may settle that matter for it; for according to an article dated Berlin, in the French Papers, the Gallo-Swedish Prince is out of favour at the European head-quarters, a circumstance, which always appeared likely, considering his peculiar situation in the midst of the "legitimate" Sovereigns. Indeed, we always used to think it such bad policy in BERNADOTTE to speculate upon the total downfall of BONA-

PARTE, that we could not believe he would lend his aid against him so far; but he gave a loose to his vanity and personal resentment (for sense of justice in such a creature it would be ludicrous to call it;) and now perhaps he will have to regret the length to which he was hurried against a man, who was the key-stone of all the new power that had been built upon the ruin of thrones. The EMPEROR of AUSTRIA, it is said, not only received him coldly when at Paris, but has left him out of the letters of invitation to the Congress, which he sent to all the Foreigners and leading Princes, particularly to the KING of DENMARK, to whom the Courts of Russia and Prussia are also represented as exhibiting very cordial feelings. It is added, that BERNADOTTE made a demand of the English Ministers last July, to sanction a projected seizure of Zealand and Copenhagen, under the pretext of punishing the KING of DENMARK for his equivocal conduct, and that the Ministers decidedly rejected it,—with an intimation, at the same time, that they would protect that sovereign in his present possessions. We need not say how happy we are to meet with some set-off in this quarter against it's consent in the Norwegian business. In fine, there is a statement in the French papers, which if true, may set his Royal Highness walking up and down with additional earnestness on his Norwegian frontiers:—it is, that "many Powers of Europe take a particular interest in the son of GUSTAVUS their relation, a young Prince who possesses the most happy assemblage of brilliant and royal endowments." Of course, we may believe just as much of this panegyric as report is likely to know of it's truth;—we remember to have read a character of the young Prince's father in almost the same words. The latter's misfortunes indeed may be a good lesson, should his son succeed to the throne:—but this point is not to our present purpose. Should the German Sovereigns interest themselves, as reported, in behalf of this child, BERNADOTTE will certainly be in as awkward a situation, as a Prince without the right of succession could get into,—a stranger to his Court, a stranger to his people, surrounded, as there is every reason to believe, with disaffected parties, and without possessing, or deserving, a single friend for a neighbour.

The usual bitternesses at Paris continue between the advocates of the old and new order of things, and some observations of a Parisian journal on a Memoir published by the celebrated CARNOT, one of the very few Frenchmen who have acted a disinterested and consistent part. We shall notice this next week.

Some further advantages against the Americans will be found in the Gazette; but our readers are aware of our old distaste to this unhappy family quarrel; and we suspect, are willing to hear as little about it, as we are to say.

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The information in the Frankfort Papers up to the 12th, which arrived yesterday, is highly gratifying to every Englishman who, in the habit of duly appreciating that national liberty which has been conquered by his ancestors from tyranny, has naturally sympathized with the misfortunes of the generous Poles, in their struggles against that foreign oppression which is fast vanishing under the benign conduct of the Emperor ALEXANDER. The following extract contains the information to which we allude:—

"*Warsaw, Sept.* 24.

"As his Majesty the Emperor of Russia arrived at Biala on his way to Vienna, he was welcomed by the Deputation. His Excellency Senator Castilian Kicki, who spoke in their name, expressed, in the Polish language, the respect and gratitude of the Polish nation, and at the same time their firm confidence in the protection of his Imperial Majesty, and that he would *restore them their political existence, and their country.* His Majesty replied in terms highly flattering to the Polish nation, expressed the esteem and regard which he felt for it; he repeated twice, expressly, that he was going to Vienna to complete the great work he had begun. He justified the confidence of the Poles by adding, that he would always consider the happiness of the Polish nation as a recompense."

From the following statement of the Swedish force still occupying the frontiers of Norway, the determination of the Diet in favour of the nefarious Bonapartean views of the Pretender to the Crown of Norway is not so probable as the writer may expect:—

"*Norwegian Frontiers, Sept.* 27.

"Of the Swedish troops that took the field against Norway, three regiments, one battalion, and some cavalry, have returned to their garrison; but there are still in Norway, and on the frontiers, 40 battalions of infantry, 16 squadrons of horse, and 72 pieces of cannon, which will most *probably* be sent home when the Diet is ended. Baron Rosinblad, the Swedish Commissioner, is furnishing a large house at Christiania, where, it seems, his stay will be long."—*Hamburgh Correspondent, Oct.* 7.

American Papers were on Friday received to the 4th ultimo. They contain an account of the surrender of Alexandria by Capitulation, all the public property being delivered up to us, together with an intimation, that the Chief Magistrate of that town had sent to the Mayor of Georgetown, whither our force was proceeding, to surrender upon the same terms; and also the American account of the action at Bladensberg. Mr. MADISON it appears had returned to Washington. General ARMSTRONG had resigned the Secretaryship at War, and had been succeeded by Mr. MONRO.—Private advices state, that a general stoppage of the cash payments at the American Banks had been the consequence of the alarm so widely extended by the operations of the British forces. In this dilemma it became necessary that the separate States should provide for their defence, the Executive Government being deprived of the means of affording protection; and thus situated, Philadelphia voted one million of dollars to be applied to expedients for its own immediate security, and the same sum was contributed, and for the same object, within its own limits, by the city of New York. The panic having subsided, matters began to resume their regular course in these principal places, and in both of them the suspension was taken off of the cash payments from the Banks.

We are told that on the day when the capture of the city of Washington and demolition of its public buildings reached Paris, the Duke of WELLINGTON had a *ball*; not one public Ambassador of the Potentates of Europe, our good Allies, presented himself to *congratulate* his Grace on the event.—*Morning Chronicle.*

THE WASP AND THE AVON.—It is pleasing to reflect, that in all our battles with the American Marine, the Captains of our ships fought them with distinguished courage and skill, though in several instances without success. The gallant Captain of the Avon fought with heroism till she sunk—NELSON could do no more. Now, strange to say, his Official Letter to the Admiralty has not been published! They were never before known to suppress an account of a sea-fight. The Hon. Captain ARBUTHNOT has been tried, and honourably acquitted. Certainly it would be wise to publish the Captain's Official Letter, else the Public will be inclined to believe the account given by the Avon's crew at Cove, with that published in most of the English papers, that of the Captain of an Ordnance transport, and that of the Captain of the Wasp, all of which are of the same tenor, viz. that when the Avon sunk, her crew were divided between his Majesty's sloops Castilian and Tartarus; and, by consequence, the Yankee went off unpursued by two British ships, doubly manned.—*Dublin Evening Post.*

It is stated that the Spanish General ALAVA has been sent to the prison of the Inquisition in Spain. This General was a Captain in the navy, and commanded a ship in the battle of Trafalgar. He was among the early patriots on BONAPARTE'S usurpation, and sacrificed his fortune to his attachment to his country. He went into the army, and was at the battle of Talavera. He was very much consulted by Marquis WELLESLEY when his Lordship was in Spain, and was afterwards constantly attached to the Duke of WELLINGTON'S army. He was appointed Minister at the Hague at the Duke's request, which he resigned on the re-establishment of the Inquisition. He bears the character of an honest, zealous and worthy man.

The POPE has reverted to the maxims of the days of LOYOLA. He has introduced the despotism of old times into the Government of the Church, and endeavoured to organize the system by the re-establishment of the Jesuits, the persecution of the Freemasons, and by putting the Inquisition in full and fearful operation. If his Holiness persist in this bigoted and mad career, we shall begin to think that, with every wish to render the Christian world pure and pious, he will, in effect, prove a greater enemy to Religion and Morality than all the Jacobins, including "the Child and Champion of Jacobinism," NAPOLEON himself. But the efforts of the POPE and of his dearly beloved FERDINAND will be vain—the power of Papal Bulls is over—all the GREGORIES and LEOS that ever lived would not re-establish them. Nay, if it were practicable to assemble a General Council, we feel that its Decrees to lock up the intellect, or terrify into silence the Spirit of Freedom, would be nugatory. Such power is disclaimed by Catholics—and the assertion, in the nineteenth century, of such power, only betrays the anility of a feeble old age, or the desperate and incurable prejudices of a monkish education. If the POPE proceed in this career, we shall begin to have some apprehensions concerning the permanency of his domination. Pasquinades are already appearing at Rome, and parties forming against the system adopted by PIUS VII. We hope they may succeed and crush the evil in its bud.—*Dublin Evening Post.*

The Emperor of RUSSIA has sent a benefaction of 1000*l.* to the Society of Friends of Foreigners in Distress, of the plan of which his Imperial Majesty was pleased to approve in his late visit to this country.

JOANNA SOUTHCOTT.—In a medico-physical dissertation, published by Dr. BERNARD O'CONNOR, in the year 1695, we find a minute account of the case of a woman, at Paris, who laboured twenty-seven years under a disorder similar to that with which this miserable fanatic is supposed to be afflicted. In the same publication, the author alludes to the case of a woman at Amsterdam, who died of an internal tumour, weighing sixty pounds, of which a description was sent to him by Dr. CYPRIAN. It does not appear, however, that the unhappy patients, in either of these cases, took it into their noddles that they were to be the vehicles of palming upon the world a new Messiah, or Comforter.

Mac Rae, well known as being convicted of the late Stock Exchange fraud, has at last made his appearance in this country, and has been apprehended.

A true bill of indictment was found at the last Old Bailey Sessions, against the wife of —— VANTUDELCO, a painter, residing at Paddington, for exposing in the public walks, a child infected with the small-pox. This is the first time we have ever heard of this salutary Act of Parliament having been put in force; and we trust it will have its due effect, not only in cautioning the public against subjecting his Majesty's subjects to the risk of this dreadful infection, but that it may also tend to do away the vulgar prejudice entertained by weak persons against the Vaccine Inoculation.

On Friday *James George Lisle*, alias *Major Semple*, who stands committed for obtaining goods under false pretences, was brought up to Hatton Garden Office from the New Prison, and was admitted to bail, in two sureties of 40*l.* each, for each charge, and himself in double that sum for his appearance at the ensuing Middlesex Sessions.

FONTENELLE died in February 1757, just one month before completing his 100th year. His character, both personal and literary, is admirably given by M. GRIMM. Utterly without heart, generosity, or sympathy with any human being, he was extremely complaisant and amusing in general society, where he dealt out epigrams to the very last, with a neatness and vivacity that was extremely engaging, and continued to be universally acceptable, without even pretending to take an interest in any thing but himself. In the whole course of his long life, it was remarked of him, that he was never known either to laugh or to cry; and he even came at last, it seems, to make a boast of this insensibility. He had a great liking for asparagus, and preferred it dressed with oil. One day, a certain *bon vivant* Abbé, with whom he was extremely intimate, came unexpectedly to dinner. The Abbé was very fond of asparagus also, but liked his dressed with butter. FONTENELLE said, that for such a friend there was no sacrifice of which he did not feel himself capable, and that he should have half the dish of asparagus which he had just ordered for himself, and that half, moreover, should be done with butter! While they were conversing together very lovingly, and waiting for dinner, the poor Abbé falls suddenly down in a fit of apoplexy—upon which FONTENELLE instantly springs up, scampers down to the kitchen with incredible agility, and brawls out to his cook with eagerness, "The whole with oil, the whole with oil, as at first!"—*Edinb. Rev.*

COMMERCIAL DISTRESS.—Within the memory of the oldest merchant living, there has never been experienced in Dublin any thing similar to the present state of mercantile distress—to the general stagnation of business, and to the total want of credit. To say that the markets are dull, or that this commodity or the other is heavy, will give but a very imperfect notion of the real state of the fact. The markets cannot be said to be dull, because there are no markets, literally *none*. The sale of any commodity cannot be accurately described as heavy, because there is, in truth, no sale. The Merchants meet upon 'Change, or in the Commercial Buildings, walk about with an anxious or a vacant face, as their pockets may be affected by the last failure. The principle is not as to the price of this article or that, but who is likely to be next in the *Gazette*. Not a day passes over our head that half a dozen of Compositions do not take place. Indeed these Compositions are more general now than at any former period, because, allowing a man's property to go to the Commissioners of Bankruptcy is sending it to the Devil's Exchequer. When the estate, by being managed with common prudence and common honesty, would be made, ultimately, to produce ten shillings in the pound, such is the cupidity of Agents, and such the cautious and tedious process of the Commissioners, that, in the end, the Creditors may bless their stars, if they secure tenpence sterling per pound. The fact is, that the Commissioners, who are Lawyers in general, without any other practice, contrive, with a very moderate share of talent and a very ordinary degree of cunning, to bring as much grist to their mills as some of the most popular Practitioners in the Courts. They literally grow rich upon the ruin of their neighbours: for they sometimes take a dozen sittings to settle a point, which, if they were anxious to *dispatch*, they might have decided in one. The Agents second this dilatory disposition on the same account; and hence it is, that an estate, promising enough in the beginning of a Commission, proves not worth a *sous* by the time the final examination terminates. Every Creditor, therefore, not unconnected with an Attorney, should set his face against a Commission. There is scarcely a case which could not be managed without having recourse to this fatal resort. It is a gulph which absorbs every thing.—*Dublin Evening Post.*

COURT AND FASHIONABLES.

ANOTHER INSTANCE OF HER MAJESTY'S BOUNTY.

MR. EXAMINER,—As you always take pleasure in recording her MAJESTY'S generosity, I have taken the liberty of sending you this, in hopes that you will make it more public, if it has hitherto escaped your notice.—I remain, yours, &c.

Aldersgate-street, Oct. 8. A CONSTANT READER.

[This Note is accompanied by a Narrative of the Sufferings of MATHIAS GREDLER, who was employed under the celebrated HOFER, as Contractor to the Tyrolese Riflemen in 1809. The fate of HOFER and the insurrection which he headed against the French is well known. In this struggle, MATHIAS GREDLER not only lost his whole fortune, 14,000 florins, but became involved for 28,000 more, which, together with the loss of his cattle last year, has reduced him and his wife to extreme poverty. In this state of destitution, he has reached England, where a Subscription has been commenced for his relief, to which her MAJESTY has been graciously pleased to contribute the sum of Twenty-five pounds.]

TEMPLE OF CONCORD IN THE GREEN PARK.

This structure, the pageant of a night, after having been ineffectually offered for sale by private contract, with all its remaining magnificence, fell, on Tuesday, ingloriously, under the hammer of the auctioneer. Its decorations being originally of no very durable nature, it had suffered a good deal from a few weeks' exposure to the air, and was beginning to wear the appearance of a decaying beauty. It was announced for sale with sufficient pomp of description, in "a catalogue of the capital joiners' work and fittings up, elaborate machinery, beautiful figures and vases, superb columns and decorations, splendid trophies and other embellishments of that much admired structure, the *Temple of Concord*, recently and conjunctively (with the fortress) exhibited as a mark of national esteem of our noble Allies, veteran chiefs, and brave heroes, who united in accomplishing the desirable event of a glorious peace, and the happy celebration of the House of Brunswick." The spectators were few, and the bidders much fewer; composed chiefly of brokers, jobbing carpenters, dealers in old iron, copper, tin, and canvas, from the vicinity of Moorfields, the Mint, and the Seven Dials. They were very scrupulous, cautious, and slow in their advances. Not all the display of triumphal porches, heraldric ensigns, imperial inscriptions, and gorgeous trophies, could move the bidders one step beyond what they judged the dry value of the materials. The sale began at noon, and continued several hours. The costly temple was divided into 100 lots, which, with two lots of timber belonging to the fencing, fetched, we understand, the sum of 198*l.* 6*s* 6*d.* !!! Some skeleton wood-work was not put up, and the emblematical transparencies had been taken away, probably to embellish some other scene of public festivity. We have not room to notice many of the interesting items of the catalogue. "*Europe rescued*" was sold for 8*s.* and "*Strife Descending*" went at precisely the same value. "*The Triumph of Britannia*" was knocked down for 50*s.* The names of "Frederick and Blucher" brought two guineas. "*The Golden Age Restored*" was an auspicious inscription, and somebody ventured 3*l.* 10*s.* for it. The "*Sceptre of the Bourbons Restored*" was valued pretty high, and cost a man three guineas. "Austria and Holland" went together for 2*l.* "The Regent and Wellington" were contended for rather stoutly, and cost the winner 3*l.* For "*War desolating the Earth*," one person went to the expence of three guineas. "Russia and Prussia," and "the Arms of Spain and Portugal," fetched 2*l.* each lot. "Alexander and Kutusoff," two pounds fifteen shillings. Seven beautiful vestals, with vases of sacred oil, were disposed of at thirty shillings to two guineas each; the purchasers undertaking to carry them away at their own expense.

We have seen a letter from Geneva, (says the *Chronicle*), which states,—"On the arrival of the Princess of WALES at that place, she sent a message to the Empress MARIA LOUISA, requesting to know whether she might pay her a visit. The answer of the Empress was, she should be delighted to see her Royal Highness. These illustrious personages, with the Grand Duchess CONSTANTINE, afterwards dined together at Geneva."

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

No. 178.

COVENT-GARDEN.

WE congratulate the metropolis on the possession of what it has so long wanted, a good female Tragedian. Since the regretted departure of Mrs. SIDDONS, the stage has been destitute of any adequate representative of the grave and mournful passions. Mrs. H. JOHNSTONE is beneath criticism; while the dry pedantry of Mrs. BARTLEY, and the sombre monotony of Mrs. POWELL, are equally ineffectual to produce the slightest interest or emotion. We

know not how it is, but the fact is certain, that every Lady of the Theatre, when invested with a tragic character, immediately dropped the natural and ordinary tone and manner of humanity, as if there was no understood connection between sorrow and man. They seemed to forget that distress and anguish are the lot of nine-tenths of human kind, and that Heaven has given to all, from the grey veteran to the stammering infant, one well-known tone of lamentation, one universal expression of grief, which all must recognize and all must feel. In spite of this truth, which daily observation must have presented to their notice, our actresses all conspired to abandon that infallible instrument of sympathy with which Nature had provided them, and borrowed one from art. Thus, one adopted the notes of a peacock screaming with passion, another preferred the creaking cadences of an ill-played fiddle, while a third terrified her hearers with that boisterous vociferation, which as it belongs of right to the bull, had much better be left exclusively to that respectable animal. Under such circumstances, it is with no common satisfaction that we see the accession of Miss O'Neill. She is an intelligent unaffected woman, who is aware that an actress is the representative of human, and not of unnatural passions, and that to excite interest in human bosoms, she must adopt those means which are intelligible to all mankind. We have as yet only seen her in *Belvidera*, but we saw enough to convince us that love and tenderness and sorrow were never represented with more effectual truth. The wife of *Jaffier* was never more completely identified with her personator: with a fine figure, a winning aspect, a voice of the most touching gentleness, and manners at once open and graceful, Miss O'Neill was the very person on whom poor *Jaffier* could not but doat, even to the desertion of his honour and his friendship. Even sterner natures might have forgot their virtue before the influence of such a fascinating presence. Miss O'Neill never seemed to forget that *Belvidera* was a very woman, one of the loveliest indeed, but also one of the weakest of her sex. She knew that a love-sick girl has no pomp of gesture, nor mock-sublimity of utterance: her arms are melting tones, and tender smiles, and sobs and tears; and never was this irresistible artillery more skilfully and beautifully worked. In saying this we do not mean to assert that Miss O'Neill is a prodigy, nor is our memory so ungrateful as to dare for one instant to put her on a level with Mrs. Siddons. Our hearts still thrill at the recollection of those sensations which Mrs. Siddons used to stir within us,—sensations which we scarcely hope to witness again, except in the contemplation of the finest poetry. Miss O'Neill has little or none of that tradscendant power, which for want of a better name is called genius, and whose force is such that all common natures bow instinctively before it, as they would before a celestial influence. With her natural charms and her absence of affectation she could not help exciting an interest for *Belvidera*, but she never for a moment awakened that veneration which is felt for a superior intellect: nor in the less impassioned parts did she recite the elegant declamation of the poet as if she had any particular relish for its beauty. We have some doubt whether she could express any passions except love and grief: her specimen of madness was mere rant. It contained however one beautiful passage, which, if had not been a solitary instance, would induce us to retract what we have said as to her want of genius. The wretched *Belvidera*, in her delirium, fancies that *Jaffier* has vanished from her into the earth: in pursuance of this idea she flings herself on the ground, and digs for him with her hands: at last she believes that she has recovered him, and hugs the visionary image to her bosom. This difficult scene was given by Miss O'Neill in a manner that evinced the finest talent. When she recovers the supposed *Jaffier*, she passes immediately from the wildest grief to the most rapturous joy: she bursts into a sportive laugh, and while she fondles the phantom of her conceit, she addresses it in a tone of playful exultation, at once expresive of her delight at the recovery, and of self-gratulation at her own skill in having discovered his retreat: her whole frame meantime was agitated by the eagerness of her joy, and her eye fairly reeled with transport. We never recollect to have seen a more affecting appeal to the heart, and it was answered by the sympathy of every heart that witnessed it.

Of Mr. Conway's *Jaffier* we shall say nothing. If we saw one atom of promise of improvement about that gentleman, we would hazard a few even severe strictures upon him, for they might be useful, but we are not willing to inflict unnecessary pain. The moment that he shews one excellence, we promise to record it; till that time we shall be silent.

Mr. Young's *Pierre* was a masterly performance. The graceful manliness of his deportment, the spirited elevation of his looks, the energy of his enunciation, combined to form a perfect portrait of the gallant, generous, high-minded soldier, whose crimes are almost obscured by the dazzle of his better qualities.

Of the profligate tendency of many parts of this drama, we shall perhaps take another occasion to speak; at present we shall merely reprobate that insult offered to a very noble passion in ascribing the contemptible fluctuations of *Jaffier's* conduct to his love for *Belvidera*. It is very possible that a feeble unmanly soul may feel a most absorbing affection for a beautiful woman; but it is the poet's business to select, and he could not but know that an indecisive infirm being like *Jaffier* might betray his friend for a hundred causes, besides the respectable one of regard for his lovely wife. He should not therefore have assisted to excite a contempt for one of the best feelings of her nature, especially when the calumny was not essential even to his own story. Otway indeed seems to have committed this outrage from pure wantonness; for in *St. Real's Conspiracy of Venice*, from which he has borrowed all his characters but *Belvidera*, he might have seen that it was very possible for a man to be a villain and a traitor without being also a lover.

EULOGY ON GEORGE II.

Oct. 11, 1818.

Mr. Examiner,—On reading the eulogy of George II. in your paper of last Sunday, it occurred to me that the Chaplain might be in reality of the same opinion as Glover; and though his station obliged him to write something that might appear to be praise, that he worded his measured prose so as to bear a different interpretation, and so as to leave a convenient open for disavowal, if a certain personage had come into power, which at that time did not appear an impossibility.

In the first lines we find the expressions—

"His soul *wept* another's woe, and *lent* its aid to assuage misfortune."

The word *wept* here conveys a very equivocal praise; how many sentimentalists do we see, who are very willing to part with their *tears*, while they are extremely loath to give any thing else to woe; like the lady in the following well known epigram:—

"Emma at sight of human woe,
"O'ercome with grief would fain appear;
"To ease her *feeling* bosom's glow,
"To want she liberal gives—a tear."

As to his *lending* his aid to assuage misfortune, there are numbers of worthy citizens not remarkable for liberality, who make a comfortable livelihood by doing so, on receiving good security and a competent recompense; and there is nothing in the verse to contradict this interpretation of the word lend, which has been the usual one,—at least since the arms of Lombardy first pointed out in this metropolis,—where gentlemen of this species of benevolence exercised their liberality:—

"Who cheers the heart with money lent,
"When friends are cold and money spent,
"Receiving only cent per cent?
MY UNCLE!"

We next are informed, that his Majesty's wisdom shone "*Alike to all*, and that *for all* he form'd his plan of policy." This is rather a confirmation of what Glover says of his facility of reconciliation for interested motives; and though the same reason for it is not given at length, yet it is by no means in opposition to it. Impartiality and indifference are extremely alike in their effects; and the ingratitude which refuses to benefit a friend, and pusilanimity which dreads to punish an enemy, are very compatible with the above character: nor indeed can this equality of favour to *all* be esteemed a good trait in a Monarch, when it is so decidedly his duty to punish the bad and reward the good. The worthy gentleman, alluded to in the last quoted verse, had also the same amiable impartiality, as appears from one that follows it:—

"Who, when the wretch is sunk in grief,
"And none beside will yield relief,
"Will aid the honest or the thief?
MY UNCLE!"

After these double-faced eulogies, the wily Churchman calls very safe witnesses to testify his Majesty's virtues:—

"——— ——— witness, ye hills,
"Ye Caledonian rocks, how much ye owe
"To George's care!"

well knowing that he might call on them for a thousand years without their noticing him. Like *Glendower* with his sprites, he certainly would call them; "but would they come when he did call on them?"

But even their dumb testimony is equivocal, and to call for it a very doubtful compliment. Barren, cold, and useless, his Majesty found the Caledonian rocks; useless, cold, and barren, he left them; and to allude to them, if it means any thing, must imply that he left Scotland as bad as he found it, in the same state as its rocks and mountains, as comfortless and chilling. If this is praise, it is at least very cold praise.

The word *owe* in the above lines seems to be another allusion to my Uncle, which character the Chaplain as well as Glover seems to have had in his imagination, while he was thinking of his Majesty, as appears from the coincidences above-mentioned: but perhaps you may think this assertion doubtful, as his Majesty's known prudence would prevent any thing so bare as a Scotch rock, from owing him any thing in that sense of the word. Let me, however, in concluding, do his Majesty the justice to say, that he did not leave all things in Scotland as bare as he found them: some cogent regulations, as to certain Scotch habiliments, enforced by Acts of Parliament made in his reign, shew that he wished at least to banish barrenness from Scotland fundamentally.—Your obedient servant,

IAMBUS.

PUBLIC MANNERS.

MR. EXAMINER,—A letter in your Paper of this day, entitled "Playhouse Lobbies," attracted my attention, and leads me to trouble you with this.

I am a countryman, and have with the greatest surprise heard of measures to be adopted to prevent courtezans frequenting the streets of the Metropolis, and of powers to be entrusted to the inferior officers of the law for that purpose. How, consistently with the liberty of the subject, such measures can be taken to restrain an act, not offending against the peace of society or the property of its members, but being merely a breach of morals, I shall not here discuss; but I ask whether clearing the streets of prostitutes, and abolishing the saloons, will have the effect of improving the morals of youth, which I understand is the ostensible motive for all the present fuss on these subjects.

I will suppose the streets cleared as well as the saloons; but unless, at the same time, the morals of youth would be advanced, I don't think any good would be done. Till the young men of the middle and higher ranks of society can be taught to look on those placed,—what they are pleased to term below them,—in another light than that of ministering to their pleasures,—till they can be taught to feel for the grief of a parent, occasioned by the seduction of a daughter, who, before the cursed seducer knew her, formed a material part of his comfort,—and till he can commiserate the situation of the poor helpless female, lost to virtue, abandoned by every friend, the scoff of every libertine, become an outcast of society, and no one to fly to but her God,—the City may clear the streets, and the saloons may be abolished, but the vice and misery of prostitution will not be in the smallest *degree* lessened. I take it, measures of these kinds would tend to conceal vice, and be more injurious than beneficial to society: the evil lies too deep to be eradicated by the means proposed. When virtue shall appear to men more lovely and advantageous in the practice than vice,—when it shall be thought a disgrace, instead of a feather in the cap, to deprive a poor girl of her virtue,—then, and not till then, will the streets be freed of the annoyance complained of, and the saloons of the Theatres used for other purposes than at present.

I wish some one more able than myself would take this matter up, and that it might meet the justice it merits.—I am, &c.

Oct. 9, 1814. N. P.

IMPROPER VERDICTS.

MR. EXAMINER,—Two letters having recently appeared in your Paper, humanely deprecating the prevalence of Verdicts of Acquittal, as to crimes which must strongly excite the indignation of all who hold sacred the name of an Englishman or of humanity, I will intrude but for an instant, to inquire of any of your readers, who may better understand the subject, whether any alteration has ever taken place in the legal punishment of Manslaughter, which our ancestors made discretionary, for the *ulivious* purpose of its being proportioned to the enormity of the offence; and if a Jury should take it into their heads, that although they must hang a man who, in an *unwarrantable* degree of passion, inflicts a death instantaneous and comparatively humane, yet find guilty of Manslaughter only a monster who *coolly* effects the same thing by the most protracted torture—whether the crime (according to their own subtlety of discrimination) verging so closely on Murder, ought not to be visited by a heavier punishment than imprisonment for a few

months and a fine of a shilling? Nothing compared with that of a poor wretch who steals a pocket handkerchief! If there are no different shades of crime, it would be as well, and certainly more constitutional, to have no punishments discretionary, but to enact certain ones for every offence, let its degree of aggravation be what it may. The continual occurrence of such cases (among which, one of the most prominent, is that of Mary Hughes, for the murder of Wm. Meats, an infant of an age which I will defy any lawyer to prove was sufficient to excite such a degree of passion, even had the death been sudden, as to warrant a construction of Manslaughter) will, I trust, be an apology for this continuation of the subject by, Sir, yours, very respectfully, J. P.

Oct. 11, 1814.

JOANNA SOUTHCOTT AND HER DELUDED FOLLOWERS.

MR. EXAMINER,—I transmit the enclosed, and request insertion on Sunday, to stop the applications that continue to be made at the different places of reference. I am happy to find the public indignation raised to a degree more than equal to the hopes of those who protected this poor man. You will wonder, perhaps, but I have indubitable information from a gentleman, whom this want of charity has driven from their ranks, that this people, in England alone, number upwards of 100,000 souls, and that hundreds more are joining daily. Can nothing be done to stop the infatuation? is a question that, since the case of this man appeared, has been iterated a thousand times; and being somewhat at a loss to answer it, I take the liberty to ask you. T.

"The poor votary of this respectable Lady, whose peregrination to London was described in many public prints, I have authority to say, after a residence of six weeks under the protection of those who, when he was in distress from the inhumanity of *his holy Brethren*, took him in, has returned into the country—his former Master, after his most excentric and unsuccessful excursion, having, from representations made, agreed to receive him back. The donations, therefore, anonymously and unexpectedly left at one of the places referred to, can be of no service to him,—because, in cases of this nature, it is useless, if not culpable, to stretch the benign hand of charity beyond what need requires; and, wearied with his peregrination, his heart would not have beat more cheerily homeward with those testimonials of sympathetic benevolence in his pocket. His friends, who were instrumental in preserving perhaps his existence, therefore, happy in this testimonial of their countrymen's confidence, request each individual, particularly one who signs "a Clerk in a Public Office," and who left five pounds, would reclaim his or her respective donation, which lies ready for them."

ARE THE ENGLISH A MUSICAL PEOPLE?

MR. EXAMINER,—It is not because I would have the last word on this occasion, nor because I wish to prolong a dispute which, for the generality of your readers, can have but little interest, that I take the liberty of addressing you once more.

The decision of the above question, after all, must be left to a very small portion of the public; and I might with perfect safety let it rest on the arguments which I ventured to adduce in my former letter, not one of which, to me, appears shaken by the observations contained in the *second* letter signed *Tallis's Ghost*. But there is a charge which the writer brings against me, namely, that of "twisting and misquoting," which deserves serious consideration; for, if that charge be well founded, I do not hesitate to say, that any observations of mine are quite unworthy of a place in the *Examiner*. But before I proceed to a consideration of this point, you must permit me, Sir, to touch on another. It is not the fact that I "valiantly" undertook to lay "the Ghost;" nevertheless, I certainly said, "the sooner he is laid to rest the better;" and I now maintain that I have laid him. *Him*, I mean, who wrote the *first* letter signed *Tallis's Ghost*; for in that and the second, bearing the same signature, there is quite sufficient internal evidence to prove, that they did not both proceed from the same pen.

Of the truth of this, you, Mr. Examiner, or any of your readers, who will take the trouble to compare them together, may be fully convinced. I will grant that the second, considered *per se*, is not very remarkable. It is "full of sound and fury," and, in some respects, appears to have proceeded from a mind subject, in a certain degree, to influences of the moon; but, compared with its innate precursor, it appears to have a portion of vigour and animation about it which is refreshing, and which alone can entitle it to any notice from *Mark Minim*.

Fully impressed, then, with the belief, that a new adversary has started up under an old name, I shall, for the sake of clearness and proper distinction, take the liberty of calling him *Shadow*, and proceed without any further ceremony to reply to his accusation and remarks.

When men argue for victory and not for truth's sake, some attempts to take an unfair advantage may be expected, though they can hardly be pardoned. Among the foremost of those are "twisting and misquoting" your adversary's language and arguments; and if I had done this with the poor *Ghost*, his friend *Shadow* would have had some apology for the big look and loud tone with which he assails me. But the fact is, Mr. Examiner, I took the trouble to answer the *Ghost's* arguments seriatim, which any one may perceive on the slightest inspection; and, in making my extracts, his letter was before me, and was afterwards compared with mine. It is therefore perfectly astonishing, that *Shadow* should venture to tax me with such disingenuous conduct, when thousands, possessing your paper, must have it in their power to give him what decorum forbids me to name; and then his terrible denunciation, "unless I infuse a little more CANDOUR into my epistolary correspondence!"

The whole, Sir, is inexplicable, except on the supposition of those unhappy influences to which I have before alluded, and, as that is a matter of great delicacy, I shall say no more on this part of the subject, but proceed to comment a little on those parts, which the unfortunate gentleman appears to have written in a more tranquil state of mind.

You will please to recollect, Mr. Examiner, that the sum of my argument was this:—"The English are not *now* a Musical People," in the proper acceptation of the term; then pray observe how the redoubtable *Shadow* proves the contrary:—"The diffusion of an Art proves, *at least I think so*, the estimation in which it is held, or, in other words, the love of it; for, were it not generally liked, I see no probability of its diffusion. I moreover do think, that the *accessories* of a musical education, every where to be seen, are an undoubted sign that the people would be musical if they could,—not "*could*," because I account them unequal to the task, but because Music-Masters in general,—not Musicians mind you,—are so much more anxious to give their pupils a rapid finger than to ground them thoroughly in the principles of harmony, and let the rest follow, which it soon would sufficiently do; or to borrow a simile from another Art, teach them to draw the figure correctly, before they are suffered to study colouring and chiaro-scuro."

It is for you, Sir, and your readers to decide how far this passage is an answer to my proposition, but, to *me*, the poor *Ghost's* nonsense seems very preferable. "The English are not *now* a Musical People," say I—"I do think, replies *Shadow*, "that the *accessories* (I must use the word) of a musical education, every where to be seen, are a proof that the people would be musical if they could." "Would if they could;" and who dares deny that, most potent *Shadow*? "Come he from east or west," I will attack him with my pen's point; but thou, O *Shadow*, shalt not be my second, unless thou sharpen thy wits a little more, and rub off the rust which at present clings to thy logical broad sword.

Shadow, like his ghostly intimate, has fallen into the error of judging of the whole by a part. Having met with "Misses

who could perform, in a manner that would be creditable even to Professors," and with some who could play "at sight, from a score of six or eight real parts," they, imitating certain Islanders of whom I have read, who imagine there is no world beyond their own horizon, immediately conclude, that "the English are a Musical People." Here it is that we differ. I am quite ready to allow that we possess Professors and Amateurs whose performance is of the highest order; but could they be all estimated, I verily believe they would bear no more proportion to the "English People," than the proportion which the fertile spots that are found here and there in the great desart bear to its vast and dreary surface. It is not so in Germany, nor in Italy—nay, not even in France. In those countries almost every gentleman can converse with you, rationally and intelligibly, on the subject of Music. But is this the case among us? The well informed of all classes in England can discourse ably on matters of high import; on Philosophy, on Legislation, on Science, on Commerce; and the vulgar of all classes can entertain you (if you be so disposed) on the subjects of Boxing, Cock-fighting, Horse-racing; but not one, Sir, out of an hundred, can say ten words concerning Music, without talking nonsense. A love for Music is so generally diffused among all the various tribes of the earth, that it seems almost instinctive in man; and surely neither the *Ghost* nor his Champion can imagine that I wish to deny to the good people of this happy land what they share in common with the inhabitants of the Sandwich Islands, and the much abused Negroes of Africa. Certain it is, Mr. Examiner, that our honest artificers and ploughmen are delighted with "Go to the Devil and shake yourself," or "St. Patrick's day in the morning;" and the higher orders are charmed with a *Valse*, or "O Lady Fair:" but I presume quite as much may be said of our neighbours the Dutch, and yet I never heard any one maintain that, as "a Musical People," they could claim any distinction.

It is true, as *Shadow* says, that we have frequent Concerts, and that some of them are well attended; it is also true, that "the good Music therein is always more in quantity than the bad."

Here, however, I stop. Had *Shadow* said, that "the good Music is relished by a *small* part of the audience," he should have had no contradiction from me. But as the case now stands, I will declare, that were I required to give a practical proof that the People of England are not musical, I would say, "Go to our best attended Concerts, observe well those pieces on which the greatest applause is lavished, and tell me whether they are not, nine times out of ten, the most insignificant and the most trumpery in the eyes of the Musician;" in the eyes of him, "whose natural genius" has been "aided by proper cultivation and instruction." I do not deny that "good Music" sometimes meets with applause—Apollo forbid the case should be otherwise!

But *Shadow* must allow that "good Music" very often meets with no applause at all; and if an audience, after giving a just tribute of approbation to a fine composition, become clamorous in their approval of one which, as a work of Art, is worthless, it is a complete proof, to use a common expression, that they know nothing about the matter, and cannot be justly called a "Musical People."—In like manner, the "overflowing houses at the Opera, when the music of Mozart and Winter was constantly performing, some six or seven years ago," will do but little in support of the poor *Ghost's* argument, aided by the mighty *Shadow* himself. If I did not possess some of that candour, which my opponent so stoutly calls out for, I might carp at his expression, of "overflowing," which, with a few exceptions on extraordinary occasions, is what we call "straining the point." But, not to quarrel about words, nor to dwell on the curiosity which the great fame of Mozart's admirable compositions had excited in the minds of numbers who regard music with almost total indifference, I ask, how it came to pass that those great works were so quietly supplanted by the operas of such men as Portogallo and Paesiello? Either the subscribers and the "Musical People" of England were insensible to the vast difference which exists between them, or they were indifferent to it. As one or the other of these conclusions is sufficient for my purpose, *Shadow* and the *Ghost* may settle between themselves which they will make.

Shadow denies that the performance of Haydn's Symphonies is attended with the buzzing of a thousand tongues, or received with indifference or neglect. Such of your readers, Sir, who chose to put up with *Mr. Shadow's* ipse dixit, are welcome to do so; but I, for the truth of what I before affirmed, will make a second appeal to those who are in the habit of attending our public Concerts, and even to the Professors themselves, who, with good reason, are often disgusted and disheartened to find their exertions so ungratefully rewarded.

In the same spirit of childish contradiction, *Shadow* replies to me, in his next paragraph.

With a view to account for some of that decay of taste among us, which even the *Ghost* has discovered and acknowledged, I ventured to allude to the great change that has taken place in the Instrumental compositions introduced in this country from Germany during the last thirty years; which, from its accumulated difficulties, has deterred great numbers of our English Gentlemen from the practice of it, and has thus narrowed the sphere and influence of good Music. On this occasion my opponent goes to work in his usual manner. He very modestly begins by saying,—"Let me correct *Mr. Minim*." And how does he do so, Sir? Why, by begging the question. "The same disproportion," observes he, "which now exists between the Germans and the English has always existed; and from the different *temperaments* of the two nations, I think I may safely predicate, that it is likely to continue."

But who, let me ask, had denied the disproportion which exists between the two nations, musically considered? And, therefore, how is this remark calculated to "correct" me?

One part of it, however, demands particular notice. *Shadow*, in the exuberance of his wisdom, "*predicates*," that from the different *temperaments* of the Germans and English, we are to expect a continuance of that disproportion which now exists between them, considered as Musical People. Difference of temperament!

Such an opinion may be and must be borne, when it is heard in our fashionable circles; but it is quite intolerable, coming from any one with the slightest pretension to sense, or the least power of ratiocination. Difference of temperament, Mr. Examiner! What is it? Is it physical or moral?

Do the Germans owe their superiority over us in Music to their philosophy, or to their Tunke or their Brat Wurste? There are numbers, I am aware, who maintain, that "the climate of England is unfavourable to the Arts"—but surely a more shallow notion was never conceived. Does Music, for instance, require warmth? It flourishes in an extraordinary manner in countries remarkable for the rigour of their seasons; or must it have a bracing atmosphere? The relaxing climate of Italy has long been its chosen seat. Perhaps it cannot exist where there is much humidity in the air; and yet the Flemings, in the midst of their rivers, canals, and fogs, were once the Music-Masters of Europe! Really, Sir, I am almost ashamed "to take up a larger portion of your paper, in proving that which almost every one (who has any claim to common sense) feels and admits;" but I cannot help for a moment reverting to our own country.

England has long held a first rank among nations for her poetry; and at a former period, as I observed in my last letter, her Musicians could vie with the most celebrated of those on the Continent. At the present day her School of Painting is most rapidly advancing; it may be that it is the first in the world; then what can the sticklers for the difference of climate and *temperament* say for their opinion? Look at Attica. The same sun which illumined Athens in all its glory now smiles on her territory; the rain and dew yet descend to fertilize it. You may still find figs and olives there; but where are her Statesmen, her Orators, her Philosophers?

All are passed away with the circumstances which called them forth, and which gave exercise and energy to their mighty talents.

The history of the Arts, in all ages, proves, I think, that their

rise and fall always depend on local causes, and not on any which are fixed, whether moral or physical.

Were this not the case, we should see them advance or recede in a very different manner; and the ages of Augustus, Louis the Fourteenth, and our own illustrious Anne, might have claimed no particular distinction.

It would not be very difficult to shew, from what local causes the great superiority of the Italians and Germans, over the English in Music, has arisen. This I may endeavour to do on some future occasion. At present, Sir, permit me to observe, that they have not considered Music as mere pastime for a vacant hour, but they have considered it as an engine, grand and powerful in its operation, and capable of exciting and refining every good and virtuous affection of the human mind. They have found that it will heighten devotion, purify love, and prove a balm for care; at the same time, that it will lend its beneficent aid to give a zest to every species of innocent joy and pleasure. On this account, they have carefully attended to its cultivation; they have established schools, in which it is taught on the best principles; and when we do as much, or even any thing like it, I shall acknowledge that we have some claim to the character of a "Musical People."

Shadow denies what I advanced with regard to the state of the performance of our Amateurs, and (with a sneer at my age and want of sociality) affirms "that there are hundreds of this same kind of gentlemen now who can do with the quartetts of Haydn and Mozart, as they did heretofore with those of the authors named."—This passage is so much in the *Ghost's* elegant manner, that it almost leads me to think I have been mistaken in attributing his second letter to any other person. But however this may be, I beg leave to say, that it is nothing to the purpose. For though there may be "hundreds" of gentlemen at the present day who can play Mozart's and Haydn's quartetts,—"hundreds," by the way, is a very sweeping expression, and looks again like straining the point,—yet I maintain, that, at the period I before alluded to, there were many more hundreds who could play the compositions of Vaubali, Sterkell, &c.—This I do not wish to be believed on my bare assertion, but for the truth of it I will refer your readers to Crosdill, Dance, Shield, or any other eminent English Professors, who remember, as I do, the state of Music in this country thirty or forty years ago.

Far be it from me to underrate the patronage which the Catch Club, at one period, bestowed on Glee-writers; but I cannot call it *great*, neither can I see that it will tend much to prove us a Musical People. It was much too partial in its operation for such a purpose: at the same time, the talent it called forth shews what might be done among us by proper encouragement, and how false their notions are, who think that there is any insuperable obstacle to the advance of the English People in the Musical Art. The wonderful circumstance of the "Cup," given by the Madrigal Society, had not come to my knowledge when I wrote my last letter, else I might have expressed myself a little more cautiously. On reflexion, however, it appears to me almost trifling to mention such an event in serious argument. The gentlemen, who compose the Madrigal Society, have certainly a right to employ their money in any way they may think proper; but I am not more convinced that the English are a Musical People, by their slight attempt to revive an obsolete species of composition, for which the greatest part of our Composers have neither learning nor inclination. Many of your readers, I fear, Sir, will imagine I have forgotten, that *le secret d'ennuyer est celui de tout dire*—a few more words, therefore, and I have done. In all discussions of this nature, personal allusions should be avoided as much as possible. On this account, I shall content myself with thanking *Shadow* for making me acquainted with a very interesting work; an examination of which, according to his suggestion, has confirmed me more strongly than ever in the opinion which I expressed in my former letter.

At the same time I will assure him, that if the poor *Ghost's* tautology, in the passage quoted by me, had not furnished a good specimen of the whole of his address, I should have passed it over, considering it as a slip of his pen, or, as *Shadow* describes it, an error of your compositor.

Although "I could extend this letter to a much more considerable length," with proofs against the musical character of the English, "I trust any reasonable person will be satisfied with what I have already advanced." Reason, convenience, and the different and laborious pursuits in which I am engaged, admonish me to put an end to the dispute on my part. Therefore, Mr. Examiner, hoping that the *Ghost* will acquire more wisdom, and his friend *Shadow* greater moderation, I shall leave the different arguments which have been adduced to those who can weigh them justly, and subscribe myself, your humble servant,

MARK MINIM.

Marylebone, Oct. 4, 1814.

POLICE.

QUERN-SQUARE.

FULMINATING BALLS.—On Monday, *C. Pianca*, of Exeter Change, was summoned on an information laid against him, for selling to Lavender the officer six fire balls, called "*fulminating peas*," which being thrown on the ground ... or pressed by the foot, explode with a great noise. The information was under the Act of William, which makes it 5*l.* penalty "to sell, or expose to sale, serpents, rockets, or *other fireworks*."

Mr. FIELDING premised, that the Act was to prevent the mischief which resulted from fireworks, the preamble stating, that people had lost their lives by "serpents, rockets, *and other fireworks*." As far as the mischievous quality went, these fulminating pens came within the meaning of the Act; but it was a question deserving consideration, whether these balls could be called "fireworks."

Mr. Bankes, optician, Strand, stated, that although unacquainted with Mr. Pianca, he felt interested for an ingenious foreigner, who was at present abroad. He would undertake to prove, that these balls or pens could not be called fireworks; and to demonstrate this, the opinions of *three counsel* had been taken, who stated that the articles did not come within the meaning of the Act of William. There was nothing like fire in them, for their explosion would not ignite gunpowder. He would prove this by an experiment. [*Here one of the peas was thrown with violence on the ground, which exploded with a flash.*]

The MAGISTRATES interrupted the experiments, observing, that the flame which they had seen sufficiently satisfied their minds. They required no terrible experiments.

Mr. Bankes said that there were various sorts of fire or flame, galvanic, electric, &c.; and according to the present doctrine, the sun itself, which looked like flame and imparted heat, was not fire.

Mr. FIELDING observed, that the Act did not restrict itself to articles made of gunpowder, for it never mentioned *gunpowder*—it spoke of "*fire*-works." It contemplated the *genus generalissimum* of *fire*—every species of fire that the chemist's power could produce. If these peas produced fire, then came they within the Act. But how was fire defined? Johnson called it "the igneous element;" and in the present instance the igneous element had been elicited—there had been produced an ignited spark. The proof of that fact was enough.

Mr. COLQUHOUN asked to what use these balls could be turned?

Mr. Bankes replied, that they could be of no use. But to demonstrate the fact that they did not produce an ignited spark, as the Magistrates imagined, he wished to try the experiment which he was before going to make, namely, to explode one of the balls surrounded with gunpowder, which explosion would not ignite. The experiment had been successfully tried over and over again, at the Royal Institution, in the presence of Sir H. Davy. [*Mr. B. then pulled out of his pocket a canister of gunpowder, for the purpose of exploding a ball in the centre of it, to show that its explosion would not ignite powder! but the Magistrates would not allow the experiment. Mr. B. however, tried it on a smaller scale, by folding about half an ounce of powder in a paper, enclosing at the same time a pea, and then pressed the paper with the foot, when the*

ball exploded, at the same time igniting the gunpowder, and burning the paper!!]—Mr. Bankes, after having thus refuted himself, stated, that he must give up the defence of the balls; but assured the Magistrates, that he felt so convinced of the truth of what he had asserted, that he would willingly have exploded one of the balls in the centre of a barrel of gunpowder!

The MAGISTRATES thinking further proof could not be desired, pronounced the party convicted—Penalty 5*l.*

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

Information has for some time been received that it was in contemplation of a gang of thieves to rob the General Post-Office, and carry off the contents of the iron chest in the Receiver-General's Office, which frequently contained notes to the amount of from twelve to eighteen thousand pounds. Lavender and Vickery discovered the plan, but the officers of the Post-Office treated it as impracticable, and even chimerical, every [illegible]ce, and lock, being deemed so thoroughly secure, the locks being the best that can be made. There appears to be no doubt, however, that the Post Office has been entered, several locks, and even that of the iron chest, opened, the contents examined, but nothing taken out, the booty not being deemed sufficiently large to take away, and that this was all done without the least suspicion or discovery by the Officers of the Post Office.—Friday was the day appointed to convince Mr. Freeling, Mr. Parkin, and other Gentlemen belonging to the Post-Office, of the possibility as well as the practicability of passing all the locks, including the iron chest, without using any violence. Lavender and Vickery attended at the Office for that purpose, and having discovered the gang of thieves who were to have effected the robbery in a quiet manner, they produced the implements that were to have effected the purpose, which they had procured after great exertion and perseverance. The doors being all locked in the most secure manner possible, by and by the presence of the principal Officers belonging to the Post-Office, Lavender and Vickery produced a master key, which passed all the locks leading to the place where the iron chest is deposited in the Receiver-General's Office, with the greatest possible ease, and they produced another key, which opened the iron chest without any noise or difficulty; this was thought the most extraordinary, as the key of the chest is never out of the possession of the person who has the care of it, and who is accountable for its contents.—*Chronicle.*

A fire broke out on Monday morning, at two o'clock, in High-street, Shadwell, opposite the Police-office. It commenced in the house of Mr. Andrews, a haberdasher, and communicated to the adjoining houses, from whence it spread with irresistible fury to others, until twenty dwellings were consumed; and from the rapidity of the flames, a very small part of the property, which principally belonged to poor persons, could be saved. The servant lad of Mr. Andrews, but for the providential aid of a ladder, must have perished. Two hours elapsed before water could be obtained. The houses on the opposite side of the street were preserved with difficulty. Many of them were considerably injured; and but for the extraordinary activity of the watermen, the Police Office must have been burnt to the ground. Mr. Andrews, whose stock was extensive, is said to be insured to the amount of 2,000*l.* Many of the other sufferers were not so fortunate.

An Inquest was held on Tuesday, on the body of *John Dunnn*, at the Blue Posts, Monmouth-street, who died suddenly after having eaten *a very hearty supper*.—Verdict, *Died by the Visitation of God.*

On Wednesday a Coroner's Inquest was held at the Rose and Crown, Colville-court, Rathbone-place, on the body of *Mr. Thomas Patton*, who met with his death on Tuesday afternoon, in consequence of some rum taking fire whilst he was racking it off.—*J. Smith*, a baker, had known the deceased about eight or nine years, he kept the Duke of York, the corner of Little Charlotte-street. Tuesday, about four o'clock in the afternoon, witness was alarmed by the cry of fire, and a little girl came out from the house of the deceased, and begged him to go to her uncle's assistance. Witness went down into the cellar and saw a quantity of rum on fire—got some water and extinguished it; when he went into the beer cellar he saw the deceased lying upon the floor apparently dead, his clothes and part of his hair were on fire. Witness got a pail of water and threw over him, which extinguished the flames, and upon trying to turn the deceased over found him totally lifeless. Witness believed that the deceased was trying to compress the pipe, to prevent the rapid flow, by which means it burst, and the deceased having a candle in his hand the spirit caught fire and suffocated him.—The Surgeon was of opinion that the deceased died from suffocation.—Verdict, *Accidental Death.*

On Wednesday night an Inquest was held at the Green Dragon, St. Andrew's-hill, on view of the body of a young woman, nineteen years of age, who was found drowned on Tuesday morning, at Blackfriars-bridge. After the Jury were sworn they proceeded to take a view of the body which was in the bone-house; they were astonished at her appearance, for though the body had been out of the water since five o'clock the preceding morning, it had not the least resemblance to a corpse, her eyes and mouth were closed as if asleep, she had a fine natural rosy complexion, her bosom seemed to heave as if she breathed, and she looked as if she was in a perspiration. The Coroner and Jury expressed their surprize, and declared they never saw or heard of a similar instance. It appeared in evidence that the deceased lived as servant to a laundry woman in Artillery-street, Blackfriars-road, where she had been about three months; that about eight o'clock on Monday evening she cleaned herself and went out to see her mother, who lived as a servant near Mile-end, and was not heard of until between five and six o'clock on Tuesday morning. No evidence could be procured to give any account of the manner of her being drowned.—Verdict—*Accidental Death.*

Tuesday morning the family of the Hon. Mr. Herbert, at Mitcham, were alarmed by the report of a spring-gun, which had been placed in the garden (and of which the regular notice had been given): the servants, on repairing to the spot, found a man lying a few yards distant, lifeless; he was discovered to be an old offender, who, only a few days before, had been detected, by a similar report, in another gentleman's garden, and then only a few shot being lodged in his legs, he was, under the idea of this circumstance being a sufficient caution, set at liberty.

Mr. Lukin, who was robbed and so cruelly treated in the Five Fields, Chelsea, last week, died on Tuesday.

MARRIAGE.

At Baltimore, in July, M. Serrurier, the French Minister to the United States, to Madame Jerome Bonaparte.

DEATHS.

On Tuesday se'nnight, at Birmingham, J. S. Pratt, Esq. Author of "Gleanings in England," &c. &c.

On the 7th inst. Mrs. Robson, wife of the Rev. Edward Robson, of Goodman's-fields.

On Friday the 23d ult. at Gawcott, near Buckingham, in the 78th year of his age, Mr. John West: he has bequeathed to the poor of the hamlet of Gawcott the sum of 30*l.* per annum, for ever, together with an additional sum of 20*l.* to be expended for their benefit in each of the five years next succeeding his decease. He built a commodious Chapel of Ease in his native village, which he endowed with 100*l.* per annum, for the support of the Minister.

On the 23d ult. Matthew Yatman, of Lindsay-row, Chelsea, aged 59.

On the 24th Sept. at Paris, on his way to the South of France, for the recovery of his health, Luke Foreman, Esq. of Upper Hanley-street.

On the 28th ult. suddenly, Major-General Fisher, Commanding Engineer at Portsmouth, brother of the Lord Bishop of Salisbury, and to the Rev. Dr. Fisher of Exeter.

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